

REMARKS

The above amendment and these remarks are further responsive to the Office action of 3 Aug 2004 of Examiner Sathyanaraya R. Pannalla.

Claims 1 and 3 are in the case, neither as yet allowed.

35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1, 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Wiecha (US Patent 5,870,717) in view of Abrams (US Patent 6,151,608).

Claims 2-10, 12-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Wiecha in view of Anderson (US Patent 6,360,211).

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 3 to further distinguish the Wiecha and Abrams references, and have canceled claims 2 and 4-16 to narrow the issues and place the case in condition for allowance.

With respect to claims 1 and 3, applicants note that

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the Weicha invention encompasses the scope of loading a catalog EDI into a DB2 table to be used by an online ordering system.

Applicants' invention as set forth in claims 1 and 3, however, goes beyond that, delving specifically into the ability to load that catalog into a staging area and allowing certain special users access to make carefully controlled changes to that data. In applicants invention, not all of the data is changeable, the structure of the staging table and the surrounding system actually controls what can be changed once the vendor has supplied the information. Applicants invention does receive a file from a supplier via EDI. However, the distinction with respect to Weicha, Abrams, and Anderson lies in what applications do with it. Claims 1 and 3 have been set forth in the prior amendment and analyzed with respect to these references. That analysis is still applicable and is not repeated here. In addition, the claims have been further limited to specify additional process steps and system components.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants urge that the above amendments be entered

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and the case passed to issue with claims 1 and 3.

The Application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action by the Examiner is urged. Should differences remain, however, which do not place one/more of the remaining claims in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned at the number provided below for the purpose of providing constructive assistance and suggestions in accordance with M.P.E.P. Sections 707.02(j) and 707.03 in order that allowable claims can be presented, thereby placing the Application in condition for allowance without further proceedings being necessary.

Sincerely,

D. G. Ruest, et al.

By

Shelley M Beckstrand
Shelley M Beckstrand
Reg. No. 24,886

Date: 23 Apr 2005

Shelley M Beckstrand
Patent Attorney
61 Glenmont Road
Woodlawn, VA 24381

Phone: (276) 238-1972

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